

Program Assessment and Work plan

Program Element: Science

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Attachments

- **Attachment 1: Year 3 funding**
 - **Attachment 2: Active Issues**
 - **Attachment 3: List of Funded Projects**
 - **Attachment 4: *Science Progress-at-a-Glance***
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Section I. Year 2 Program Assessment

The second year of the Science Program saw an expansion of activities related to peer review, performance measures, issues workshops, white papers, and conferences. Tools and strategies outlined during the first year were refined and developed in more detail (for example: the program goals were slightly reorganized to support future evaluation of the science program's progress towards meeting them). Science Program staff were increasingly called upon to provide assistance and advice to other CALFED programs, multi-agency committees working on specific issues, the IEP, and programs related to but outside of CALFED. Despite this progress, most core tasks of the program (including nominating a Science Board, initiating critical studies, conducting data analyses, and assessing CALFED-wide performance) could not be carried out during Year 2 because of contract delays.

The following presents a more detailed assessment of Year 2 activities and progress, organized by program goal.

A. Accomplishments to Date/ Status of ROD Commitments

Task 1: Oversight and Management

Structure and activities of the Science Program: During Year 1, the Lead Scientist and Program Manager designed program goals, objectives, strategies, operational structure, staffing plans, and work plans to implement the broad goals laid out in the ROD. Year 2 was intended to be the beginning of full program implementation. Instead, most of the oversight effort during Year 2 was spent resolving contract issues and building relationships with local agencies and universities.

During Year 2, the Science Program continued to bolster its roster of core staff to assist in program administration. The Science Program also developed a comprehensive contract to secure the services of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). This contract was initiated to aid the Science, Ecosystem Restoration, and Drinking Water Quality programs in administrative functions necessary for the completion of peer reviews, communication efforts (e.g., workshops and conferences), as well as the establishment of science boards and completion of projects to address critical science

Section I. Year 2 Program Assessment

A. Accomplishments to Date/ Status of ROD Commitments

Accomplishments of the Water Transfer Program in year 2 include:

- Participated and contributed to preparing a series of papers addressing water transfers involving groundwater substitution and crop shifting/fallowing to serve as a standardized approach to evaluating transfer proposals and to assist transfer proponents in formulating proposals. These papers were developed with participation of the stakeholder community.
- Developed a Water Transfers web page on the DWR website and continued to operate the On-Tap website to facilitate information exchange on transfers and provide guidance to the regulatory approvals required by project proponents of various types of transfers.
- DWR, USBR and the SWRCB entered into a Memorandum of understanding establishing their respective responsibilities for implementing the Water Transfers Information Clearing House.

Utilized the public involvement/stakeholder activities undertaken by the SWRCB in the development of the draft report "Water Transfer Issues in California" to identify opportunities to streamline the current permitting process. Joint use of this process prevented duplication of effort and potential confusion of the part of the stakeholder community.

- Developed and implemented an approach to determining carriage water requirements for transfers on a real-time basis. This process was developed in coordination with the Bay-Delta Modeling Forum.

B. Program delays

Implementation of Phase 1 of the development of the On-Tap website was delayed due to unforeseen complications in the contracting process.

Section II. Year 3 Work Plan

A. Year 3 Tasks and Schedule

1. Increase the availability of existing facilities for water transfers.
 - This activity will include identifying constraints and opportunities to convey transfer water through Federal/State/local facilities.
2. Lower transaction costs through permit streamlining and improved contracting processes.
 - This activity will include continued work with the affected stakeholder community, encouraging coordination of multiple transfers and identification of standard mitigation measures and thresholds to address third-party socioeconomic consequences.
 - Develop legislative proposals and other regulatory changes and/or recommended as appropriate.
 - The SWRCB will continue to evaluate its change petition process to expedite short-term transfers.
 - Continue to discuss and consider measures suggested by the panel of interested stakeholders to streamline and expedite the various agency water transfer approval processes, as defined in the report “Water Transfer Issues in California”, including:
 - Adopting a standard water transfer application form with DWR, SWRCB, and USBR
 - Create a shared place-of-use between the CVP and SWP service areas
 - Pre-approve potential buyers of water from groundwater banks
 - Establish limits for processing transfer applications
 - Establish suitable criteria for approving land idling-based water transfers
 - Clarify sections of the Water Code regarding Section 1707 transfers
 - Providing financial and technical assistance to agencies preparing groundwater management plans
3. Increase availability of market information to stakeholder and permitting communities.
 - This activity will continue the operation and development of the On-Tap website and the Water Transfer Clearinghouse. The USBR will manage a contract that provides for:
 1. Coordination of continued On Tap website development
 2. Refinement of existing website information
 3. Preparation of a website user manual/guide
 4. Preparation of a database update manual
 5. Transfer of the website to the USBR web server

The USBR contract will also provide for CALFED Water Transfer Program management activities. This activity will also include the development/ improvement of water transfer tracking and monitoring tools.

The Water Transfers Program will continue to work with other water transfer related programs by the CALFED Agencies to increase the availability of market information to stakeholders. DWR, SWRCB and USBR will jointly lead this activity. Dean Reynolds will be the staff contact for DWR, Mark Stretars for the SWRCB and Joel Zander for USBR.

4. Oversight and Coordination
 - Program Management/Coordination/Oversight will be incorporated into each of the major activities. These activities will be carried out by the CALFED Water Transfer Program Manager.

Table 2 summarizes these tasks and the respective responsibilities of each implementing agency.

This table is based on responsibilities under the current governance structure. The new governance structure under the Bay Delta Authority is primarily effective in Year 4.

Table 2. Water Transfer Tasks and Agency Roles

Water Transfer Tasks				
	CALFED	DWR	USBR	SWRCB
1. Increase the Availability of Existing Facilities for Water Transfers		Co-Lead		
2. Lower Costs Through Permit Streamlining		Co-Lead		
3. Increase Availability of Water Transfer Market Information to Stakeholders and Agencies		Co-Lead		
4. Oversight & Coordination	Lead			

B. Category A and B Programs/Funds

The Water Transfer Program is Category A. There are no Category B activities identified for the Water Transfer Program.

C. ROD Implementation Commitments

The CALFED Water Transfer Program has successfully implemented all ROD commitments in accordance with the originally envisioned time schedule. These commitments included:

- Establishing an operational "On Tap" Web-site to facilitate the availability of water transfer market information to interested stakeholders and agencies
- Convening a panel of interested stakeholders to draft recommendations for streamlined water transfer approval and lowering transaction costs.

The status of these commitments are described in Section 1 of this work plan.

Table 3 summarizes the steps taken to ensure the Water Transfer Program is being implemented in a manner consistent with the Environmental Justice commitments of the ROD.

The Environmental Justice Workplan prepared by the BDPAC Environmental Justice subcommittee has been reviewed. Those activities that can be performed in year 3 based on available staffing and funding are described in the table below.

Table 3. Environmental Justice Coordination

Environmental Justice Workplan Tasks	Program Element Response
EJ Subcommittee and CALFED Programs draft goals, objectives, strategies, and performance measures for integration of environmental justice into CALFED program element workplans with technical assistance from EJ reps on each Subcommittee, EJ Coordinator, and/or EJ Subcommittee.	Environmental justice considerations are incorporated into program goals, strategies, and performance measures.
For each meeting of the EJ Subcom, ensure participation of at least 1 CALFED program manager and appropriate Subcommittee chairs when appropriate, based on agenda	The Water Transfer Program is schedule to meet with the Environmental Justice SubCommittee on October 11, 2002. Additional meetings will be scheduled as appropriate.
Develop program to address the potential adverse impacts of water transfers on low-income populations and communities of color in CALFED's solution area	The Water Transfer Program is developing, in coordination with the EJ Subcommittee, an approach for identifying and implementing compensation to affected low-income populations and communities of color resulting from the implementation of water transfers.

D. Management Group

CALFED Water Transfer Program and DWR Water Transfer staff intend to discuss with the Management Group recommendations developed by the SWRCB Water Transfer Workgroup for streamlining the transfer approval process and facilitating water transfers in November 2002. CALFED and DWR Water transfer staff will update the Management Group on the status of the Water Transfers Program in Spring 2003. The update will include a discussion of the status of ongoing evaluation of implementing a procedure for administering third-party compensation for water transfer effects that is being developed under the DWR contract with Butte County.

E. Public Participation

CALFED Water Transfer Program and DWR Water Transfers staff will update the Public Advisory Committee on the progress of the Water Transfers Program following the presentation to the Management Group in Spring 2003.

F. Agency participation

DWR and USBR will hold monthly coordination meetings to discuss ongoing transfer activities. DWR Water Transfer staff participates in weekly EWA team meetings to coordinate activities with the resources and management agencies at the State and Federal levels.

CALFED Water Transfer Program staff will hold routine meetings with DWR, USBR, and SWRCB regarding the continued development of the On Tap Web-site to ensure full participation and coordination among these implementing agencies.

G. Science Review

Program staff will provide information and assistance as required supporting the CALFED Science program and Panel in their activities.

Coordination with the CALFED Science Program will be used to help in the evaluation of the technical approach proposed for analyzing surface and groundwater interaction and other hydrologic factors that will govern the amount of "real" water that can be developed through groundwater substitution based transfers. "Real" water is the water that can be developed without injuring another legal users of water.

NOTE: The Science Work Plan Executive Summary is under review by program staff. Upon completion of this review, changes and additions may be made to this section of the Work Plan.

H. Budget by Task – See attached table See attached table.

Section III. Stage 1

A. Stage 1 Projected Expenditures

All expenditure projections are in millions of dollars.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	TOTAL
ROD Expenditure Projections	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	15
Revised Expenditure Projections	1.83	0.84	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	5.62

Revised Projections by Task

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	TOTAL
Task 1	0.28	0.22	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	1.05
Task 2	0.47	0.43	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	2.40
Task 3	1.08	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	2.17
TOTAL	1.83	0.84	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	5.62

Task 1 –Increase the availability of existing facilities for water transfers

Task 2 – Lower Transaction costs through permit streamlining and improved contracting processes

Task 3 – Increase availability of market information to stakeholder and permitting communities

Year 3 funding represents actual budgeted amount. The budget for the Water Transfers Program has been substantially reduced to reflect General Fund availability and tasks such as the Water Transfers Clearinghouse will be scaled back to be consistent with the resources available.

B. State, Federal, Local/Water User Cost Sharing

There is no Federal cost sharing for year 3. Cost sharing for future years will be dependent on the availability of funding with the target cost sharing being 50 percent Federal and 50 percent State.

Cost sharing for this program will be reviewed as part of the overall Finance Plan described in the Oversight & Coordination Work Plan.

Transfer Workplan - CALFED Program Year 3 (\$ in thousands) December 1, 2003				
Transfer	CALFED	DWR	SWRCB	Total
1. Increase the availability of existing facilities for water transfers.	\$0	\$102	\$0	\$102
Fund Source				
General Fund		\$102		\$102
2. Lower transaction costs through permit streamlining.	\$0	\$216	\$76	\$295
Fund Source				
General Fund		\$216	\$76	\$295
3. Increase availability of market information to stake-holder and permitting communities.	\$0	\$127	\$68	\$197
Fund Source				
General Fund		\$127	\$68	\$197
Transfer	CALFED	DWR	SWRCB	Total
General Fund	\$3	\$445	\$144	\$592
YEAR 3 WORKPLAN TOTAL	\$3	\$445	\$144	\$592